## BACKGAMMON

## Players: 2

Equipment: "Backgammon" Game Board, 15 Black Disks, 15 Red Disks and Pair of Dice

Object: Be the first player to move all your tokens (stones) around the points on the game board to your home table (your inner table) and "bear them off" (remove them from the game board). Usually, several games are played, with the winner of each game earning points-the first to reach a score of 10 points wins the match.

Set-up: 15 black tokens, 15 red tokens. Players choose to be the black or white and then set up the game board as shown below. The game tokens in backgammon are referred to as "stones." Each player rolls a die to determine who has the first move, ties are rerolled. The player with the highest num-ber will begin the game by using the two high numbers of the dice that were just cast by himself and his opponent.


Moving Stones: Count begins on point next to one on which a stone rests. In general, a player moves the stones one at a time along the points in a loop that extends from his opponent's 1-point to his own 1-point. The opponent's stones travel in the opposite direction. Dice advance a stone forward the rolled number of points and the stone comes to rest at the base of the point. A player can move two stones, one for each die, or a single token twice, once for each die. A player can choose to use only one die, but it must be the highest count die. If a player rolls doubles, they are doubled again. (example: a $5-5$ becomes a 5-5-5-5 which equals four separate moves). There is no limit to the number of stones belonging to the same player that may rest on one point. A point housing two or more stones of the same player is BLOCKED against an opponent, and his stones may not land on that point, although it may be jumped. When a player cannot move because of blocked points he loses the move.

Blots: A single stone resting on a point is a BLOT; an opponent may land on the point and HIT the blot, which sends it to the bar at the center of the board. A stone on the Bar must start over on his opponent's 1-point. This stone on the Bar must reenter his opponent's inner table before making another move. He cannot enter on a blocked point. Two or more blots may be hit in one play.

Bearing Off: When either player succeeds in moving all of his stones around the board to his inner table, he starts to "bear off" (remove) stones from points corresponding to the dice thrown. The player can either move a stone within his inner table or bear it off. For example, a 1-2 that is rolled, may be used to bear off a stone from the 1-point and the 2-point, or the player may choose to move a stone from the 3 -point to the 6 -point. When casting a number higher than any point covered, a stone from the highest point may bear off, but he cannot bear off a stone if the point indicated is vacant and there is a stone on a higher counting point. If, while bearing off, a token is HIT, the player's stone goes to the Bar and must reenter in the usual way. This stone must travel all around the board to his inner table again before more stones can be moved or taken off.

Doubling: The doubling cube (the die w/numbers) changes winners' scores dramatically; therefore, games are played to 20 or 50 or more points. At the beginning of the game the doubling die is neutral and is placed face up on the 64. At any time during the game a player can turn it so that the 2 is face up and offer it as a "bet" to his opponent, raising the stakes of the game. If the bet is accepted by the opponent, the game is now worth 2 points to the winner (instead of the standard 1 point). If the opponent rejects the bet, he forfeits the game and his opponent earns 1 point. If the opponent accepted the bet, he now has the right to double the bet to a 4 later in the game and in turn, the opponent must choose to accept or forfeit. This scenario may continue indefinitely but there are usually not more than four or five in any game. The points increase as follows: $2,4,8,16,32$, etc.

Winning: The winner of the game is the first player to remove all his stones from the board. If the loser has not borne off any of his stones, it is called a GAMMON and the stakes of the game are doubled. If the loser still has stones on the winner's home table, it is called a BACKGAMMON and the game stakes triple. This includes stakes raised by doubling.

## CHECKERS

Players: 2
Equipment: "Checkers" Game Board, 12 Black Disks, 12 Red Disks

Object: Capture all you opponent's tokens.
Set-up: Place the game board so that there is a dark square to the left of each player. Using the black and red tokens, each player places four tokens on the first three rows of dark squares i.e. 12 tokens per player. Black always starts, and play is only on the dark squares.

Play: A token moves diagonally one square at a time, forward-not backward. If a token reaches the far side of the board it becomes a king (stack two playing pieces to indicate a king) and can now move diagonally in any direction. A token may also "leap-frog" over another token if there is a vacant square beyond and if the other token belongs to the opponent. The jumped token is removed from the board (captured). If a player fails to capture an opponent's token the opponent's token may on his next turn remove the offending token. This does not count as his move.

Winning: Play continues until one player wins by capturing all of his opponent's tokens, or a draw is declared.

## CHESS

Players: 2
Equipment: "Chess" Game Board, 16 Black Chess Pieces, 16 White Chess Pieces

Set-up: Lots are drawn to establish who has the white chessmen and, thus, who can move first. This player is then allotted the 16 white chess pieces and the other player the 16 black chess pieces. The board is positioned so that each player has a dark corner square on his left. The rooks are positioned on the two corner squares to the left and right. Next to these come the two knights, one on the left and one on the right. Next to these come the two bishops and in the center, the queen and king. The white queen is always positioned on a light square and the black queen on a dark square. The eight pawns are then placed adjacently in the second row in front of these chess pieces.

Play: The pawns can only move forward. For the first advance from its initial square on the second rank, the pawn has the option of moving one or two squares, but thereafter may move only one square at a time. The rook moves only on the ranks and files any distance and the bishop moves only on the diagonals. The queen can move in any direction.

The knights are the only pieces which are able to change direction during the course of a move and "jump over" one's own or one's opponent's pieces; a knight takes one step of one single square along the file or rank and then, still moving away from the square that it has left, takes one step along the diagonal. The king may move in any direction, one step at a time.

All pieces start from the pawns in the normal direction of movement described above. However, the pawns which normally only move in a straight line, may only capture diagonally to the front, left or right and only while moving forward. It is not obligatory to capture your opponent. If the king is threatened, check must be given (the player must declare check). The opponent is then obliged to protect his king by moving the king to another square or moving one or his own pieces between it and the threatening token or capturing the opposing attacker. If he is unable to make any of the above moves, the king is said to be checkmated and the game ends is favor of the opponent.

Castling: Castling is a compound move of the king and one rook (formally called 'castle') that may be made, if at all, only once in a game. It is legal if neither the king nor the rook has yet moved. If all the squares between them on the rank are vacant, and no adverse piece commands two squares nearest the king on the side on which castling is to be carried out, and if the king is not in check. The move is executed by moving the king two squares towards the rook and then placing the rook on the square passed over by the king.

## CHINESE CHECKERS

Players: 2-6
Equipment: "Chinese Checkers" Game Board, 60 Marbles (10 of each color)

Object: Be the first player to move all of your marbles to the triangle opposite your starting triangle on the game board.

Set-up: Each player chooses 10 marbles of the same color and places them in the triangle of the star nearest him. The colors of the marbles do not have to match the color of the point they are placed in, but it is helpful.
Play: The youngest player begins, and play moves to the left in a clockwise rotation, with each player making one move at a time. A marble may move in any direction, as long as it follows the lines of holes on the game board. A player may jump over a marble, providing there is an empty space opposite the jumped marble. A player may jump more than one marble only if there is an empty space opposite each marble jumped. Players may play as partners or against
each other. No player can refuse to move out of his starting triangle to prevent another player from winning.

Winner: The first player to successfully move all of his marbles into the opposite triangle wins the game.

## COVER 21

Players: 2
Equipment: "Cover 21" Game Board, 2 Dice, 15 Red Disks, 15 Black Disks

Object: Be the player with the most pieces on the board when all 21 spaces have been covered.

Play: Player with the black disks rolls first. A disk is placed over the combination that the player rolls. Players alternate rolls, placing disks according to their combination that was rolled. Only one marker can be placed per combination rolled. Once all the 21 spaces have been covered, the player with the most markers placed on the board is the winner.

## MANCALA

Players: 2
Equipment: 1 Mancala Board, 48 small colored beads
Object: Be the player with the most beads in your Mancala.
Set-up: Place four beads in each of the bins numbered one (1) through twelve (12) as shown in the diagram below.


Play: Player A's bins are those numbered 1-6. Player B's bins are those numbered 7-12. Decide which player will play first by the flip of a coin. The first player then picks up all of the beads in one of the bins on her side of the board. [For example, Player "A" would pick up the beads in any of the bins numbered 1-6.] The player then proceeds by placing one bead at a time in each of the bins counter-clockwise around the board. If the last bead is placed in your Mancala then you play another turn. You never place a bead in your opponent's Mancala, you skip it, placing the remaining bead(s) in the following bin(s). [For example, Player A picks up eight beads from bin 6 , she then places a bead in her Mancala and then bins 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, but skips her opponent's Mancala and places the remaining bead in bin 1.] If the last bead is placed in an empty bin on your side of the board, then you take all of the tokens in your opponent's
bin directly opposite as well as the single bead placed in the empty bin, and place them in your Mancala. Players may not touch the beads to count them and once touching the beads, the player must play them.

Winning: Play ends when one player's six bins are empty. The other player then places all remaining beads from her side of the board into her Mancala. Players then count the number of beads in their Mancalas. The player with the most beads is the winner.

## PACHISI

Players: 2-4
Equipment: "Pachisi" Game Board, 16 Tokens (4 each red, blue, green, yellow) and pair of dice

Object: Be the first player to move all your tokens around the game board and into your "home."

Set-up: Each player chooses four tokens of one color, which must be set out on the corresponding color circle (or flower shape) at each corner.

Play: No player moves a token until he has rolled a six (any combination of the dice that adds up to six). If a player does not roll a six, his turn is over and play is passed to the player to the left. The first player to throw a six takes one token from the corner circle/flower and places it on the corresponding color "start" area on the game board. In the next turn the player uses his roll to advance his token that number of squares clockwise around the path of the game board.

In each turn, players decide which of their four tokens to advance, according to how they choose to count the dice. The dice can be added together to advance one token, or counted individually to advance two tokens. A player can also use the count from one die and choose to ignore the other. Whenever a six is rolled the player can choose between getting another token out of it corner or advancing a token already in play. Whenever a player rolls doubles, he gains an extra turn. If a player rolls doubles three times in a roll, he is penalized and his token closest to "home" must return to the "start" circle.

When a player arrives on a square already occupied by an opponent, the opponent's token is "captured" and must be returned to its colored circle/flower. In addition, the player that was the "capturer" is given a 10 -space bonus. He may move any token forward 10 spaces. The bonus may not be split between two tokens.

A player's own tokens may share the same square and no other player may pass while an opponent has two or more tokens sharing the same square. A player whose roll causes him to land on a square occupied by two or more of an opponent's tokens must lose his roll until he can pass that square. The player must wait until there is only one of the opponent's tokens on that square.

Once a token has made a complete circuit of the game board, it moves up into it's corresponding color "home" path. The home path is a safe zone and no opponents's tokens may enter the home path. Once in the home path, a player tries to get his token into the home area. Tokens may only enter "home" on an exact count roll. Every time a player gets a token into "home," he earns a 5 -space bonus. The bonus may be used to advance another token forward, but may not be split between two tokens. Once a token has reached "home" it may be removed from the game board (to allow space).

WINNING: The first player who get all of his tokens to reach "home" is the winner.

## SOLITAIRE

Players: 1
Equipment: "Solitaire" Game Board, 32 Disks
Object: Remove all but one disk.
Play: Place the disks on every spot except the center one, remove the disks by jumping over another disk into a vacant spot. Continue jumping one disk at a time until all are removed or no jumps are possible.

## SNAKES \& LADDERS

Players: 2-4
Equipment: "Snakes \& Ladders" Game Board, 4 Different Colored Playing Pieces-1 per player, 1 Die

Play: The first player rolls the die and moves her playing piece the number of spaces indicated on the die. The player to the left of the first player then rolls the die and moves her playing piece as indicated.

Any player who finishes her turn on a square at the bottom of a ladder moves her play piece up the ladder to the new square at the top of the ladder. Similarly, any player finishing her move on a square with a snake's head must slide down the snake to the square with the snake's tail.

Winning: The first player to reach the square numbered " 100 " is the winner. Players must land on the " 100 " by an exact throw, (i.e. throw a three if their playing piece is on " 97 "). If too big a number is thrown, the playing piece must be moved forward to "100," and then back again to makeup the correct number required. This sometimes means more trouble with the snake waiting on square number " 98. ."

## TIC-TAC-TOE

Players: 2
Equipment: "Tic Tac Toe" Game Board, 5 Black Disks (X’s), 5 Red Disks (O’s)

Object: Be the first player to get three playing pieces in a row.

Play: One player selects X's. The other player uses O's. The $X$ player begins game by placing an $X$ in any of the nine squares formed by the intersecting lines. The game alternates between $X$ and $O$ players, placing their disks on the board.

Winning: The first player to line three of his disks in a row either vertically, horizontally, or diagonally wins the game. Should neither player do this after all nine squares are covered, the game is a tie and a new game can be played.

Object: Be the first player to get to square "100"
Set-up: Each player selects a colored playing piece. Youngest player starts first.

